Inclusion of 'Kashyap' caste as SC

†1643. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from some States and social organisations for inclusion of 'Kashyap' caste in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the details of the requests received from different States particularly from Uttarakhand, for inclusion into the list of Scheduled Castes during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have examined these requests; and

(d) if so, which social communities or castes are likely to be included into the list of Scheduled Castes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) The Government of Uttarakhand had recommended inclusion of 'Kahar kashyap' caste in the list of Scheduled Castes. Since the proposal was not substantiated by requisite ethnographic information, it was returned to the State Government. Likewise the proposal of.Govemment of National Capital Territory of Delhi was processed in accordance with the approved modalities. The Registrar General of India (RGI) did not support the proposal. Therefore, the proposal has been returned.

Welfare scheme for weaker sections

1644. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose any welfare scheme for weaker sections of the society in the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise; and

(c) the details of financial assistance to be granted to the States in NER during 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) A number of schemes are being implemented in the North Eastern Region including Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan, Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Castes, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme, Integrated Programme for Older Persons and Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance Drug Abuse.

(c) The annual plan outlay approved for the Ministry for the year 2007-08 is Rs.2001 crore which includes Rs.78.38 crore for North Eastern (NE) Region.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.